Application No. 09/986,377

Amendment dated December 30, 2005

Reply to Office Action of October 4, 2005

Docket No.: 1982-0171P

related equipment) is given to the image processing system-main process (see "instruction for emergency stop/state transition instruction" in Fig. 2).

**3**3 Page 34

Please replace the paragraph commencing at line | with the following amended paragraph:

BJ 9/21/06

As a result, in each subprocess of the image processing system, so long as there is any data (for example, image data) which is being processed, it is cancelled (destructed\_discarded) and processing which is being executed is stopped, and processing for transition to the initial state is carried out. For example, among subprocesses of the image processing system, a subprocess for carrying out an operation of analyzing image data or image processing, requests the OS to hold a storage region for storing image data in a storage space of RAM 48, and stores image data in the storage region assigned by the OS to allow analysis or image processing of image data. In the subprocess for which the storage region of image data is assigned, after processing for requesting the OS to release the assigned storage region, the state of the subprocess is transited (changed) to the initial state thereof.

<u>Page 35</u>

Please replace the paragraph commencing at line 13 with the following amended paragraph:

9/21/06

When a an abnormal state of the image processing system results from, for example,

Application No. 09/986,327

Amendment dated December 30, 2005

Reply to Office Action of October 4, 2005

Docket No.: 1982-0171P

inconsistency of the state between processes of the image processing system or inconsistency of the state between the image processing system and the image processing-related equipment, transition to the initial state in each subprocess and each of image processing-related equipment can be normally performed. Therefore, the image processing system-main process receives, within a specified time, a normal response from all of subprocesses and image processing-related equipment which are managed thereby. As a result, the image processing system-main process makes a determination that emergency stop of the image processing system (and the image processing-related equipment) and transition to the initial state(reset), indicated by the emergency stop execution process, has been normally completed, that is, an abnormal state of the image processing system is settled and restored, and acquires, from the OS, information which identifies the emergency stop execution process.

## Page 43

Please replace the paragraph commencing at line \( \dagger with the following amended paragraph:

BY 9/31/00

In the image processing system-main process, a timer is started after an instruction for "forced ending" is given to all of the image processing system-subprocesses and image processing-related equipment, which are managed thereby. When a specified time has elapsed, the image processing system-main process gives an instruction for stopping the process to all of subprocesses managed thereby irrespective of a determination as to whether a completion response has been received from all of subprocesses and image processing-related equipment

Application No. 09/986,377

Amendment dated December 30, 2005

Reply to Office Action of October 4, 2005

Docket No.: 1982-0171P

which are managed thereby (see "end-of process process ends" in Fig. 3). As a result, all of subprocesses of the image processing system ends. The image processing system-main process requests the OS to shut down the personal computer 44 and restart the personal computer 44, and the image processing system-main process itself ends.

19

Please replace the paragraph commencing at line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

B) 9/21/06

After the OS has performed preprocessing for shut-down and restart of the personal computer 44, the OS shuts down the personal computer 44 (the power source of the image processing section 14 operates with the power source of the personal computer 44, and accompanied with shut-down of the personal computer 44, the image processing section 14 is entirely shut down). Thereafter, when the OS is restarted and application programs including the image processing system are restarted, the entire image processing section 14 is restarted. Due to the entire image processing section 14 being shut down, thereafter restarted, and system initialization processing being performed (accompanied with the system initialization processing, the power source of the image processing-related equipment is turned on again and initialization of mechanical facilities mechanism, or the like is performed), a an abnormal state of the image processing system is restored irrespective of causes of the abnormal state of the image processing system (even when the abnormal state results from abnormality of a communication system or the like).